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COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT
Fourth session
Geneva, 17 May 1999
Item 5 of the provisional agenda

BUDGET AND INTER-SESSIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION

Note by the secretariat

GE.99-51270

1. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1997/62, recommended that at future sessions of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), the report on budget and inter-sessional activities be considered under a separate agenda item. In accordance with Council decision 1997/306, by which it approved the provisional agenda of the fourth session of the CSTD, the report on budget and inter-sessional activities is to be considered under agenda item 5.

The budget of the Commission (1 January 1998-28 February 1999)

2. Table 1 provides an account of the appropriations and expenditures for CSTD activities under the regular budget and of the income and expenditures for CSTD activities covered by extrabudgetary resources. The report covers the period 1 January 1998 to 28 February 1999. Under the 1998-1999 programme budget of the United Nations, the CSTD has an appropriation of US$ 352,500, to be used for the travel of members to attend the fourth session as well as for the travel and subsistence allowances for the working groups and panels established to prepare the inputs for the Commission's fourth session. From the regular budget, US$ 152,500 was set aside to pay for the travel of Commission members to participate in the fourth session, and US$ 200,000 was allocated for the activities of the working groups and panels. In view of the changes in the membership of the Commission, twice during the inter-sessional period, the Working Group on scientific and technological partnerships and networking for national capacity-building (main theme) met only once. Thus, the cost of the Working Group on the main theme came to only US$ 48,733. During the reporting period the CSTD held two more meetings, namely, the last meeting of the Working Group on the common vision for the future contribution of science and technology to development, and the panel meeting on biotechnology and its impact on food production, the cost of which came to US$ 55,520 and US$ 23,430 respectively. An amount of US$ 50,000 has been set aside for a first meeting of the Working Group that will be established to prepare the inputs for the Commission's fifth session, leaving a balance of US$ 22,317. For budgetary purposes all funds will need to be actually spent before the end of 1999.

3. With regard to extrabudgetary resources, the available resources for CSTD activities came to US$ 183,202.23[1]. As shown in Table I, the amount of US$ 161,078.23 was the balance from the trust fund that had been set up with contributions from the Government of the Netherlands (Dutch Fund) to cover the 1995-1997 inter-sessional activities. In early 1998, the Chairman of the CSTD requested the Government of the Netherlands to consider the extension of the trust fund in order to complete unfinished work and to use the balance for some new activities, namely, the first meeting of the Working Group on the main theme. The Government of the Netherlands gave its approval in November 1998. An additional US$ 22,124 was contributed by the Government of Austria.

4. As can be seen from Table I, US$ 76,187.03 was used for the science, technology and innovation policy reviews (STIP) (Ethiopia and Jamaica), US$ 21,577.25 for the purchase of copies of the publication "Knowledge Societies: Information Technologies for Sustainable Development" and US$ 20,000 for the publication of the reports on the coalition of resources for the development of science and technology. All these activities had been approved and planned by the previous Commission. The amount of US$ 45,500 earmarked for the meeting of the Working Group on the main theme has not been used, as the meeting took place in September 1998 and the approval from the Government of the Netherlands was not communicated to the secretariat until November. The Dutch Fund will be terminated on 30 June 1999 and the use of the balance for other purposes will again require approval from the Government.

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[1] This amount is net of support costs.

5. Finally the amount of US$ 22,124 has been used for the preparation of the report on the evaluation of best practices in networking.

Inter-sessional activities of the Commission

May - December 1997

6. Three meetings were held as follow-up to the third session of the CSTD[2]. These are:

- Expert Group on common vision for the future of science and technology for development, Addis Ababa, 13 - 14 November 1997;
- Workshop on the coalition of resources for the development of science and technology, Addis Ababa, 17 - 18 November 1997; and
- Bureau meeting, Addis Ababa, 15 - 16 November 1997.

January 1998 - February 1999

7. The meetings held during the current reporting period are the following:

- Working Group on partnerships and networking, Sliema, Malta, 28-30 September 1998;
- Expert Group on common vision, Geneva, 8-10 December 1998;
- Panel meeting on biotechnology and its impact on development, 21-22 January 1999; and
- Bureau of CSTD, Sliema, Malta 30 September 1998.

8. Table 2 shows all the meetings held during the fourth inter-sessional period, from May 1997 to the end of February 1999. For each meeting it gives the names of participating Commission members and other participants from the United nations system, civil society and academia.

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[2] These meetings were charged against the 1995-1997 inter-sessional budget. A report on the revenues/expenditures for this period is contained in document E/CN.16/1997/CRP.3. The cost of the Expert Group on the Common Vision came to US$ 32,363 and was charged against the regular budget under "Panel meetings", which showed a balance of US$ 59,144. Funds remaining in the regular budget at the end of 1997 were returned to Headquarters. The cost of the Bureau Meeting and the Workshop on Coalition of Resources came to US$ 42,625 and was charged against the Dutch Trust Fund under "Bureau meetings", which showed a positive balance of US$ 54,898. The balance of the Dutch Trust Fund was brought forward and has been used as reported in the present report.

Table 1
SUMMARY OF OVERALL CSTD BUDGET
1 January 1998-28 February 1999
(in US$)

I. REGULAR BUDGET

ITEM	APPROPRIATION[1]	EXPENDITURE	COMMITTED	PLANNED	BALANCE
i) Travel of participants to the 4th sessions of CSTD	152,500	-	-	152,500	-
Subtotal	**152,500**	-	-	**152,500**	-
ii) Panel meetings	200,000	-	-	-	-
a. Working group on Partnering and Networking	-	48,733	-	-	-
b. Panel meeting on Vision Panel for the Future	-	56,520	-	-	-
c. Biotechnology Panel	-	23,430	-	-	-
d. Panel related to main theme of fifth session	-	-	-	50,000	-
Subtotal	**200,000**	**127,683**	-	**50,000**	**22,317**
Regular budget subtotal	**352,500**[1]	**127,683**		**202,500**	**22,317**

II. EXTRA-BUDGETARY RESOURCES

ITEM	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	COMMITTED	PLANNED	BALANCE
1. DUTCH FUND[2,3,4]					
A. Science, technology and innovation policy reviews (STIPs)	75,578.23	76,187.03			-608.80
1. Consultants fees	-	44,440.00	-	-	-
2. Travel of consultants	-	9,837.66	-	-	-
3. Travel of UNCTAD staff	-	20,472.38	-	-	-
4. Miscellaneous	-	1,437.00	-	-	-
B. Information technology activities	20,000.00	893.25	20,684.00	-	-1,577.25
1. Cost of purchase of 1900 copies of ICT publications	-	-	20,684.00	-	-
2. Freight costs for 500 copies purchased by the UN	-	893.25	-	-	-
C. Coalition of resources	20,000.00	-	-	20,000.00	-
D. Main substantive theme	45,500.00	-	-	-	45,500.00
E. Miscellaneous	-	331.71	-	-	-331.71
F. Adjustments	-	-2,349.04	-	-	2,349.04
DUTCH FUND Subtotal	161,078.23	75,162.95	20,684.00	20,000.00	45,231.28
2. AUSTRIAN FUND[2]					
Evaluation of networks	22,124.00	18,750.00	-	3,374.00	-
a. Consultants	-	18,750.00	-	-	-
b. Printing of report	-	-	-	3,374.00	-
AUSTRIAN FUND Subtotal	22,124.00	18,750.00	-	3,374.00	-
EXTRA-BUDGETARY Total	183,202.23	93,912.95	20,684.00	23,374.00	45,231.28

[1] Appropriation at 1998 exchange rates.
[2] Net of support costs.
[3] Revised budget as of November 1998.
[4] Total includes balance at 31.12.97 of US$110,021.78, interest earned in 1998 US$6,088.03 and the second instalment of US$44,968.42 (not disbursed as of 28.02.1999).

Annex

Inter-sessional activities of CSTD

Expert Group Meeting on common vision for the future contribution of science and technology

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13-14 November 1997

Agenda

1. Opening statement
2. Channels for interaction between enterprises, Governments, academia and research bodies, NGOs and other members of civil society, including the role of national S&T councils - formal and informal channels
3. Setting of government priorities with regard to S&T development
4. Support mechanisms for strengthening innovation in agriculture and industry - the issue of effectiveness
5. The role of the CSTD in stimulating closer interaction among partners in development with regard to S&T issues
6. Discussion of possible conclusions and recommendations and further work

Participants

Members:

Mr. Carlos Aguirre
Mr. R.A. Boroffice
Mr. Asrat Bulbula
Mr. Naswil Idris
Mr. Luk Van Langenhove
Prof. Bernd Michael Rode
Mr. Arnoldo Ventura
Prof. George Waardenburg

Experts:

Prof. Chen Jie
Mr. Paschal B. Mihyo
Mr. M. Anandakrishnan
Mr. Fred Kakaire Nyende

Secretariat:

Mr. K. Aning
Ms. Lynn Mytelka
Mr. Vladimir Pankov

Workshop on coalition of resources

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 17 - 18 November 1997

Agenda

1. Opening statement
2. Coalition of resources for building and operating the transmission infrastructure. Overview and guidelines
3. General discussion
4. Financing the application of ICTs in education
5. General discussion

Working group sessions: Case study presentations

Working Group 1: transmission infrastructure - case studies:
Bangladesh, Ethiopia

Working Group 2: education - case studies:
Ghana, India, Indonesia, South Africa

Working Group 3: health - case studies:
China, Costa Rica, Kenya, Uganda

Plenary sessions:
Presentation of lessons learned and discussion of guidelines

Final recommendations and guidelines

Participants

Members:

Mr. A. Bulbula
Mr. M. Gbeasso
Mr. W. Hillebrand
Mr. G. Oldham
Ms. M. Ranga
Mr. A. Ventura
Prof. G. Waardenburg
Mr. M.M. Zafar

Experts:

Mr. B.S. Bhatia
Mr. F. Bukachi
Prof. Chen Jie
Mr. M. Lawrie
Mr. F.K. Nyende
Ms. F. Walker

Other organizations:

Mr. J.L. Hamel (ECA)
Ms. N. Halfkin (ECA)
ITU - Addis Ababa
Mr. B. David (Bellanet)

Representation:

Embassy of Switzerland in Addis Ababa

Consultants:

Mr. A. Crede
Mr. D. Goldshmidt

Secretariat:

Mr. K. Aning
Ms. L. Mytelka
Mr. T. Tesfachew

Bureau Meeting
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 15 - 16 November 1997

Agenda

1. Opening and agenda
2. Minutes of the Bureau meeting in Jamaica
3. Review of events - third session, including membership and position in the United Nations of CSTD
4. Present financial situation
5. Ongoing projects
6. Review of decisions taken at the third session. Preliminary work plan for inter-sessional period 1997-1999
7. Strategy for dissemination of reports of CSTD
8. New projects
9. Future financing of CSTD activities
10. Contact strategies
11. Other business

Participants

Bureau members:

Prof. G. Waardenburg, Chairperson 1995 - December 1997
Ms. M. Ranga
Mr. A. Ventura
Mr. M. Gheassor
Mr. A. Bolbula, Chairperson-elect (January - December 1998)

Member:

Mr. A. Hillebrand

Secretariat:

Ms. L. Mytelka
Mr. K. Anlog

Working Group on partnerships and networking for national capacity-building

Sliema, Malta, 30 September 1998

Agenda

1. Opening remarks
2. Introductory statement
3. Panel 1. General overview on partnership
4. Panel 2. Partnerships in the energy sector
5. Partnership on biotechnology
6. Lessons learnt and recommendations to CSTD for further work
7. Conclusions and adoption of the report

Participants

Members:

Mr. Ali Abaab
Dr. Kouadio Amani
Mr. Asrat Bulbula
Ms. Joseke Bunders
Dr. Galina Butovskaya
Mr. Alfred A. Van Kent
Mr. KongRae Lee
Dr. Titus Mteleka
Ms. Rolanda Predescu
Ing. Justo A. Quintero
Prof. B. Michael Rode
Mr. Arnoldo Ventura
Mr. M.M. Zafar

Experts:

Ms. E. Atzler
Dr. Ludovico Alcorta
Mr. Neils Busch
Ms. Joanna Chataway
Prof. Anton Eberhard
Mr. N.S. Vonortas

Other organizations:

Mr. Dirk Pilari (DESA)
Prof. B. McA. Sayers (WHO)
Mr. Omar Bizri (ESCWA)

Secretariat:

Ms. Helen Argallas
Ms. Lynn Mytelka
Mr. Mongi Hamdi
Mr. Dieter Koenig

Expert Group Meeting

Common vision for the future contribution of science and technology for development

Geneva, 8-10 December 1998

Agenda

1. Views on elements of a "Common Vision": Country perspectives
2. Global entitlement to knowledge
3. The changing role of the State in the development of science and technology
4. The role of networking and partnership in a multidisciplinary approach to science and technology
5. Other issues for consideration
6. Towards a common vision

Participants

Members:

Mr. C. Aguirre
Dr. G. Butovskaya
Dr. A. Kouaouci
Mr. T. Kuhn
Mr. KongRae Lee
Dr. J. Meyer-Stamer
Mr. C.O. Okuro
Ms. B. Predescu
Dr. V. Quevedo Rodriguez
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Mr. A. Ventura

Experts:

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Mr. C. M. Correa
Mr. K.J. Engelhard
Mr. J. A. Fernandez Esteve
Mr. T. Ganiatsos
Ms. G. M. Malcom
Dr. B. Matasovian
Mr. M. Nagao

Secretariat:

Ms. H. Argaillas
Ms. E. Erb-Paniagua
Ms. G-V. Koch
Mr. D. Koenig
Mr. V. Pankov
Mr. P. Roffe
Ms. M.T. R. Florez
Mr. Y. Soubra

Panel Meeting

Biotechnology and its impact on development

Geneva, 21-22 January 1999

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Species and traits: techniques application and relevance to developing countries
3. Policies and institutional capacity-building
4. Other critical issues in biotechnology
5. Identification of critical areas for further work

Participants

Members:

Dr. R. Castellanos
Dr. G. Mencinicopschi
Dr. G. Perez
Prof. A. Tsaftaris
Mr. A. Ventura

Experts:

Dr. E. Fontes
Prof. Z. Hamid
Ms. K. Stokes

Other organization:

Mr. P. Gregory (World Bank)

Secretariat:

Ms. R. Argallas
Mr. M. Hamdi
Ms. M. Masin
Mr. D. Koenig
Mr. J. de Castro

Bureau meeting

Sliema, Malta, 30 September 1998

Agenda

1. Opening
2. Reform of the UNCSTD
3. Progress of work
4. Follow-up to resolutions and decision of previous sessions
5. UNCSTD budget and inter-sessional activities
6. Other matters

Participants

Bureau members:

Mr. A. Bulzola, Chairperson (January - December 1998)
Ms. A. Pradeep
Prof. B. M. Mute
Mr. A. Ventura

Members:

Mr. KongPan Lao
Mr. M. M. Zafar

Secretariat:

Ms. H. Arnaldez
Mr. L. Mytelka